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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/555,557	08/04/2000	DIAMANTIS GIKAS	67190/973904	9214

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EXAMINER

DETWILER, BRIAN J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2173

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/555,557

Applicant(s)

GIKAS ET AL.

Examiner

Brian J Detwiler

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 April 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,689,662 (Nakajima et al., hereinafter Nakajima).

Regarding claim 5, Nakajima teaches providing a display window which can be divided vertically (see Figure 15; wherein Nakajima teaches the window divided vertically); displaying in a first partial window of the display window a hierarchical structure of the at least one interface parameter of the software component (see Figure 15 reference 136; wherein Nakajima shows the hierarchical display of interface parameters (i.e. folders & icons) on the left); selecting one of the interface parameters using a movable cursor (see column 19, lines 52-56); and displaying in a second partial window of the display window a detail display of the selected interface parameter (see column 20, lines 35-39; wherein Nakajima teaches displaying details of a selected interface parameter in a second partial window (reference 138 of Figure 15), the detail display including a display of at least one editable attribute of the selected interface parameter (see attributes displayed for selected parameter in window 138 of Figure 15) and allowing the editable attribute to be defined and parameterized (see column 10, lines 33-40; wherein

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Nakajima teaches bringing up the property page of Figure 6, wherein a user can modify and define the attributes of a selected interface parameter).

Regarding claim 6, Nakajima teaches providing a name and data portion for the at least one editable attribute, the name portion being used to identify the editable attribute, the data portion being scrollable horizontally if it requires more space than offered by the display window, a graphical representation of the name portion being stationary (see inside of window 138 of Figure 15; wherein Nakajima teaches a horizontal scroll bar for the data portion of the selected parameter's attributes, the name portion remaining on the stationary column header).

Regarding claim 7, Nakajima teaches arranging the name and data portion in vertical columns, arranged side by side (see window 138 of Figure 15; wherein Nakajima teaches the name of the attribute and it's associated data (i.e. file size, type, etc.) in vertical columns scrollable horizontally).

Regarding claim 9, Nakajima teaches dividing the data portion into columns or rows (see window 138 of Figure 15; wherein Nakajima teaches the data portion divided into columns).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,689,662 (Nakajima et al) in view of Microsoft's Internet Explorer 4 as shown by "Mastering Internet Explorer 4's Active Desktop" (Vines).

Regarding claim 8, Nakajima teaches all the limitations of claim 8 (see rejections above) except for arranging the name and data portions in horizontal rows, arranged one below another. Vines teaches arranging the name and data portions in horizontal rows, arranged one below another (see under heading "Folders the way you want", near the bottom of the page, along with associated screen shot; wherein Vines teaches the web page view of Explorer, with horizontal rows of name and data portions of attributes arranged along the left hand side for each element selected). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Nakajima and Vines before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface parameterization system taught by Nakajima to include horizontal arrangement of name and data portions of object attributes, so that they can be viewed easily in an appropriate manner (see under heading "Folders the way you want", near the bottom of the page, along with associated screen shot) as taught by Vines.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,689,662 (Nakajima et al) in view of Microsoft Explorer as shown by "Tips Windows 95: Mai 1997" (hereinafter TipWorld). Nakajima teaches all the limitations of claim 10 except for a sequence of the vertical columns is freely selected and stored by a user. TipWorld teaches a user selecting and storing a sequence of vertical columns (see under headings "Gimme Details" and "Hide-And-Seek Columns"; wherein TipWorld teaches a user selecting and deselecting a sequence of columns. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the

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teachings of Nakajima and TipWorld before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface parameterization system taught by Nakajima to include selecting and storing a sequence of vertical columns, so that columns more desired can be viewed more easily (see heading "Hide-And-Seek Columns" where TipWorld teaches hiding columns so that ones desired to be made more prominent are given that role) as taught by TipWorld.

Regarding claim 11, Nakajima teaches a sequence of the horizontal rows is freely selected and stored by a user (see Figure 15; wherein Nakajima clearly shows using the column headings of window 138 can be used for ordering horizontal rows, in this instance they are sequenced according to the file names).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 2 April 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant asserts that Nakajima fails to teach providing an interface parameter that has an editable attribute. The examiner respectfully disagrees. There is no disputing that Nakajima clearly illustrates a graphical user interface comprising a divided display window with a hierarchical structure on one side and a details display on the other. In fact, this interface has been utilized at least since the deployment of Windows 95. The relevant issue, then, is whether or not the file system objects displayed in window 136 of Figure 15 can be considered interface parameters with editable attributes. The file system objects displayed in windows 136 and 138 are dynamic and interactive in that their appearance changes in accordance with the contents of the file system, and they can be freely selected and modified by a user. Since these objects

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comprise a substantial portion of the interface, and affect how the interface is used and displayed, it is not unreasonable to broadly interpret them as interface parameters. Additionally, these parameters are editable in that the user can modify attributes in their associated property sheets, or change the name, type, or modified fields through various other editing means. It is further noted that the recitation "software component of an industrial automation system" has not been given patentable weight because the recitation occurs in the preamble. A preamble is generally not accorded any patentable weight where it merely recites the purpose of a process or the intended use of a structure, and where the body of the claim does not depend on the preamble for completeness but, instead, the process steps or structural limitations are able to stand alone. See *In re Hirao*, 535 F.2d 67, 190 USPQ 15 (CCPA 1976) and *Kropa v. Robie*, 187 F.2d 150, 152, 88 USPQ 478, 481 (CCPA 1951). Accordingly, the grounds of rejection presented in the previous Office action are maintained herewith.

Conclusion

Applicant is hereby notified that a new examiner has been assigned to the instant application.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

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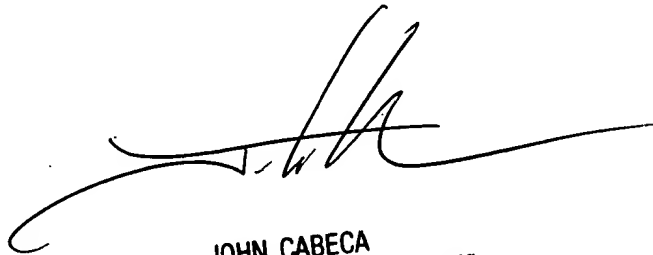
will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian J Detwiler whose telephone number is 703-305-3986. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thu 8-5:30 and alternating Fridays 8-4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W Cabeca can be reached on 703-308-3116. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

bjd
June 12, 2003



JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2173